

CITY AFFAIRS.

Meetings This Day.

Gentlemen's Auxiliary Association, at half past 7 P. M.
Ladies' Fuel Society, at half past 11 A. M.
Marion Lodge, at 7 P. M.
Eagle Fire Company, at 7 P. M.
German Rifle Club, at 8 P. M.
Marion Fire Company, at 7 P. M.
Strict Observance Lodge, at 7 P. M.

Auction Sales This Day.

William McKay will sell at 10 o'clock, at his store, furniture, billiard table, &c.

THE BANK OF CHARLESTON.—By the notice in another column it will be seen that the long looked for resumption of business by the Bank of Charleston is at last an accomplished fact.

DELUGED BY MISTAKE.—An error of the types in our paragraph of yesterday on the subject of weather reports for December, changed a moderate rainfall into a young deluge. The correct figures of the rainfall during the past month are three 67-100 inches.

CHIMNEY ON FIRE.—A little before seven o'clock on Wednesday evening, an alarm was spread caused by the blazing of a chimney on the premises of Mr. P. Dunning, in Woolfe street. The flames were speedily extinguished without bringing out the engines, and the case having been brought before the Mayor, the owner was fined two dollars.

A STEAMER ON FIRE.—The steamship Florida, Captain Mitchell, which arrived here yesterday in five days from Nassau, N. P., with a disabled, is said to be the same Florida which was fired at in West India waters by a Spanish ship-of-war, which act would render the steamer somewhat famous should it lead to important results. She is at present at anchor off the Battery.

SECURE YOUR TICKETS AT ONCE.—Messrs. E. Sebring & Co. and J. L. Moses, general agents, South Carolina Land and Immigration Association, No. 34 Broad street, announce that the sale of tickets will close at six o'clock Saturday evening. We would advise all tardy people to put off no longer but go at once and get tickets. A V invested in this association may be the means of securing to yourself a competence.

CRUMBS.—The weather in Williamsburg has been like spring.

The annual meeting of the Auxiliary Association of the Widows' Home will take place this evening, at the Home, Broad street.

We learn that Colonel S. T. Cooper, of Black Mingo, had the misfortune a few days ago to be thrown from his buggy, and had his arm dislocated and broken. At last accounts he was suffering very severely.

WESTWORTH STREET LUTHERAN CHURCH.—At an election held at the Westworth street Lutheran Church on Monday last, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year: Geo. S. Becker, president; W. J. Wiley, treasurer; F. B. Honnor, secretary; D. G. Wayne, W. Fisher, E. A. Gadsden, J. E. Thomas, J. Ogren, J. J. Boyden, John Graham and E. J. Klingman, vestrymen; S. Thomas, Jr., and N. F. Smith, wardens.

OUR PRICES CURRENT.—We especially invite the attention of our merchants to THE NEWS Prices current, issued this morning. Made up with the utmost care, and handsomely printed with entirely new type, it forms, with the business card of the house forwarding it, the most attractive and welcome weekly commercial circular that can be used. Price, for ten copies or more, with business cards, two and a half cents per copy; single copies five cents.

IN CALICO.—We learn from the Deutsche Zeitung, of yesterday, that at the entertainment of the Freundschaftsbund, to take place on Thursday evening next, several of the most bewitching young ladies who attend the balls of the society have consented to appear in simple calico. The galant editor is an enthusiastic believer in the doctrine that "beauty when unadorned is most adorned," and, in consideration of the charitable purpose in view, expresses a hope that the praiseworthy example will be followed by many.

THE GRAND TOURNAMENT.—The preparations for this attractive feature of the gala week are steadily progressing, and the affair gives daily promise of being ahead of anything of the kind that has ever been seen in the city. The array of knights will be a most imposing one. The races on Tuesday are being made up, and fast trotters may be seen daily exercising their paces on the plank and shell roads. Valuable prizes are to be put up at these races, and the winners will bear off something valuable in addition to the honors they gain. Go in and win.

REAL ESTATE SALES.—The following real estate was disposed of yesterday morning at public auction:

By R. M. Marshall & Bro.: The two adjoining plantations, Pine Grove and Spring Grove, in St. James Goose Creek, on the south of the main road leading from Strawberry Ferry to Charleston, in all six thousand and ninety acres, for \$4000.

Tract of one hundred and thirty acres on John's Island, on the Bohecker River, adjoining the lands of Wm. R. Jenkins on the north, for \$200.

Terms—one-third cash, balance in one and two years.

By Letch & Bruns: Lot No. 29 George street, with two and a half story wooden house, twenty feet in front by one hundred and twenty feet deep, for \$650 cash.

Lot, with two-story dwelling, on the north side of Magazine street, two doors from Mazzyck, forty feet in front by one hundred feet deep, for \$730 cash.

Vacant lot on the south side of Price's alley, adjoining the property of Mr. Webb, the florist, twenty feet in front by seventy feet deep, for \$210 cash.

THE BOARD OF CONTROL OF THE CONFEDERATE HOME gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following donations: During the month of November—One barrel of Irish potatoes, from an unknown friend; two barrels sweet potatoes, from John F. Townsend, Esq.; sweet potatoes, grist and wood, from B. Press Smith, Esq., of St. Stephen's; one ton of coal, from Mr. H. F. Baker; one barrel sweet potatoes, from "a friend"; one half ton of coal, from Mr. Johnson. During December—One bag potatoes, from Mr. Legare; one tierce rice, from "a friend"; six hams, from an annual contributor; one barrel apples, from Messrs. Welch & Brandes; one box raisins, from Mr. W. H. Welch; sugar, from Mr. Feldmann; one box raisins, from Wilson Brothers; coffee, from Mr. Ahrens. For the Christmas tree donations were received from Captain J. S. Fairly, Mr. J. R. Read, Mr. Lengnick, Mr. McLoyle, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Overhardt, Mr. Furcberg, Messrs. Kinsman Brothers, Mr. Von Santen, Mr. Claussen, Mr. George Bart, Mr. Knobloch, Mr. Koester, Mr. Klein, Dr. Almar, Mr. Heine, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Lehmann and Mr. Cappel.

BISHOP ENGLAND.

The Lecture Last Night by the Hon. M. P. O'Connor.

Hibernian Hall was filled last evening to overflowing with an appreciative audience, including a large number of ladies, who had assembled at the invitation of the Catholic Institute to hear the lecture on Bishop England by the Hon. M. P. O'Connor. Every seat in the spacious hall was occupied before the appointed time, and late comers were compelled to content themselves with standing room in the rear. At the appointed hour, the members of the Catholic Institute ascended the stage with their honorary guests, and the splendid band from the Citadel, which had kindly volunteered for the occasion, regaled the assembly with some delightful music. The Right Rev. Bishop Lynch then rose and briefly introduced the lecturer.

Mr. O'Connor, with a few philosophical reflections on greatness, and allusions to some of the great names of the past, introduced his theme by asking, "Shall we be deemed presumptuous for including in this category, and placing upon the roll of greatness, him who has been pronounced by the impartial verdict of a just posterity the 'Apostle of the Western World'?" Nearly a third of a century has elapsed since the venerable and beloved John England, the first bishop of Charleston, died. His mortal remains repose in yonder church, in the land and in the midst of the people he loved so well, and beneath the vault where once he lay in the full meridian of his power and his glory. The altar from which he spoke is there no more. A rude and simple slab, without inscription, marks his resting place, and the solemn musing ruins of the once stately Cathedral stand as a silent mourner over his consecrated tomb. That characteristic love and attachment which animated his followers in life, and the marked readiness and profound homage paid to his exalted position, are now as fresh as the day he died, and as green and as fast as the ivy to the oak, around his hallowed memory.

John England, the speaker went on to say, was born in Cork, Ireland, on the 23d of September, 1788. His grandfather suffered for years in a British dungeon the penalty of fidelity to the obligations of his conscience. His father was treated as an outlaw, for teaching country, and for years was a refugee among the hills of his native country.

Having concluded the story of the Bishop's nativity, the speaker describes him as he appeared before us in Charleston. "His head a dome of thought, a temple of wisdom and of knowledge, and a storehouse of learning; with heavy overhanging eyebrows, which jutted out like the ledge of a rock from his forehead, and a crown of hair, and a countenance lit up by the lustre of his full, clear blue eye, whose glance penetrated while riveting the gaze which it attracted."

In a few burning and eloquent sentences the lecturer now indicated the action of the Irish priesthood during the early part of the Bishop's life in Ireland, and particularly the part taken by the Bishop, and reverting to the events which so well qualified him for the exalted position he sustained. "Bishop England was endowed by nature with facilities that fitted him either to instruct or to govern mankind. Combining the most varied resources of a powerful and commanding intellect, with the most wonderful intuition, with a determined will and a well disciplined temper, and, above all, a genius that aspired to great deeds; that, if fortune had so determined, might have made him a conqueror, his triumphs the camp and the field, and illustrated by his talents the cabinet of the forum. But he was destined for a holier station. His parents, abounding in that catholic piety which so well qualified him for the exalted position he sustained, and his religious martyr, and made him renowned for her sanctity, bore him in his infancy upon their arms to the altar, and dedicated his services to the sanctuary."

The attainment of the Bishop as an orator next claimed the attention of the speaker, who reviewed shortly the interesting rise of the Divine, from the completion of his ecclesiastical education at the Theological College of Cork, to his filling the president's chair in the Theological Seminary of Cork, where he cultivated with so much success those talents for polemical controversy which so distinguished him in after life.

The lecturer next reviewed the events attending the coming of the Bishop to this country, and his taking possession of his see as a charity at war with the love and esteem of the people he had come amongst, and his increasing renown draws forth the following eulogy from the speaker: "He rose steadily and rapidly in distinction and renown, and towered high above the common run of fame. The lustre of his genius was like unto the brilliancy of a new jewel, more precious than gold or sapphire, set in the casket of Carolina's glory. Attracted by his religious and genial life, and by the glow of his intellect, he was the glittering centre of a charmed circle, adorned by the first of Carolina's scholars and jurists, and some of the best and wisest of her statesmen. The gems of wit and humor that dropped from his lips, and the aptly anecdotes with which he enlivened the hospitable board, are to this day fresh in the remembrance of those who were familiar with him. 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